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care not at all about individuals. There are those who believe that every significant historical change must have been somewhere initiated by an individual, and there are those who view the individual merely as one who seizes upon and utters forces which he finds already in existence and which he does not at all create."

The author is working with plastic material, seeking to apprehend the invisible currents which dominate and pervade the social structure. Religion, education, ethics, aesthetics, morality, all are laid beneath the microscope in an attempt to analyze and classify. And even as he writes, changes take place and the cataclysm of social currents sweeps on.

The Atlantic monthly and its makers. By M. A. DeWolfe Howe. (Boston: Atlantic monthly press, 1919. 106 p. \$1.00)

That Holmes named it; that Lowell called it his "old man of the sea" and was its first editor; that "The battle hymn of the republic," the "Commemoration ode," "A man without a country," first saw light in its pages — these facts and many others connected with the history of the *Atlantic monthly* few people know. From the days when the *Atlantic* was a family until today when it is a corporation, many names held dear to America's readers have been closely associated with its growth and progress. James Russell Lowell, James T. Fields, William Dean Howells, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, the editors of the magazine; Oliver Wendell Holmes, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Ralph Waldo Emerson, its contributors — it is bone of their bone and flesh of their flesh. Merging the goodly heritage of our grandfathers in the intellectual current of today, absorbing the New England tradition in the life of all America, broadening and widening its horizon until it touches the lives of thousands — thus have grown the *Atlantic monthly*.

With rare judgment and skill, easily as if he were recording the story of dear friends and intimates, M. A. DeWolfe Howe describes the *Atlantic monthly and its makers*. It makes delightful reading, the quotations are well selected, the woodcuts highly artistic. One closes the book with but one criticism — Mr. Howe has stopped too soon.

A. L.

Historic shrines of America. Being the story of one hundred and twenty historic buildings and the pioneers who made them notable. By John T. Faris. (New York: George H. Doran company, [1918]. 421 p. illustrated. \$3.00 net)

This book is frankly intended for popular consumption. As the foreword indicates, it is the author's design to stimulate patriotism by encouraging vacation tours to sites of historic interest in America, and it